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RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 1658  
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RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0050  
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 1933  
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 0780  
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0104  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L YAOUNDE 001235

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STATE FOR INL/C AND AF/C  
LONDON AND PARIS FOR AFRICA ACTION OFFICERS  
PRETORIA FOR DHS/ICE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/11/2017  
TAGS: [KCOR](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [CM](#)  
SUBJECT: CAMEROON CORRUPTION INVESTIGATIONS: WHO IS DOOH  
COLLINS?

REF: A. YAOUNDE 752 NOTAL  
[B](#). YAOUNDE 1068 NOTAL  
[C](#). YAOUNDE 1234  
[D](#). BROWN-SCHWING E-MAILS

Classified By: Poloff Tad Brown for reasons 1.4 b and d.

[1](#)1. (C) Summary. Francis Dooh Collins is Justice Minister Ali's chosen interlocutor with foreign governments regarding the anti-corruption investigation Ali is spearheading (reftels). Although some of Dooh Collins' outlandish claims have given us reason to doubt his credibility, he has succeeded in producing a mutual legal assistance (MLA) request signed by Ali (septel), and he is, at least for the time being, the Government of Cameroon's (GRC) chosen agent for this purpose. In the interest of cultivating a more professional, sustainable anti-corruption effort from the GRC, we will seek to convince Ali to establish soon a formalized structure to handle this and similar requests for the GRC, which may also help minimize the wildcard factor of Dooh Collins' inscrutable role. End summary.

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Background  
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[1](#)2. (C) Cameroonian Justice Minister Amadou Ali tapped Francis Dooh Collins to act as the Government of Cameroon's point person for a series of anti-corruption investigations because, Ali said, Dooh Collins came from a highly reputed Cameroonian family (ref b). Ali went on to say that he would be willing to drop Dooh Collins if the USG had adverse information or concerns about him.

[1](#)3. (C) At the Ali's request, former Ambassador Marquardt met with Dooh Collins and his American citizen colleague, Robert Horwath, multiple times during the weeks of June 4 and 11 (ref a). Horwath has not been in any of the subsequent meetings. Poloff met with Dooh Collins on September 12, September 24 and October 10. Information from Dooh Collins and Robert Horwath's business cards and Dooh Collins Cameroonian National ID Card follows para 10-11.

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Dooh Collins and The \$1 Million  
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14. (C) In a September 12 meeting with Poloff that lasted almost two hours, Dooh Collins expressed his general confidence that the GRC's coordination with the USG, UK and other countries was moving forward. Dooh Collins mentioned the \$1 million that Ali provided for the investigation (refs a and b) and said he would ask Ali for more. In response to Poloff's questions as to why even \$1 million was needed, Dooh Collins said the funds were needed to secure the cooperation of foreign governments and other partners in the investigation. Dooh Collins began by explaining that the funds were used to "entice" Swiss and French intelligence to provide relevant information because, Dooh Collins said, they were otherwise busy and not interested in helping Cameroon. He went on to say he also provided funds to UK intelligence in order to secure their help and finished his explanation by asserting he was using the funds to subsidize the travel and work being done by the USG, specifically to the Department of Homeland Security's ICE, to pay for two ICE officers to be dedicated to the Cameroon file and to subsidize their travel.

Poloff repeated this information back to Dooh Collins to verify, and Dooh Collins confirmed that he was claiming to have provided funds to USG and other agencies in order to subsidize and incentivize their cooperation with the investigation. Poloff relayed this information to DHS officials in Washington who vehemently denied Dooh Collins' characterization (ref d).

15. (C) When Poloff revisited this issue during an October 10 conversation, Dooh Collins said that Ali would ask Biya for a further \$600,000 when Biya returns from Geneva. In response to Poloff's asking why such large sums would be needed, Dooh Collins said that he would need to pay for a lawyer in Luxembourg and for other (unspecified) partners

contributing to the investigation. (Note: In the September 12 meeting, Dooh Collins said he was working with Andre Lutgen, a lawyer in Luxembourg. End Note.)

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The French Factor  
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16. (C) In the September 12 meeting with Poloff, Dooh Collins said that shortly after his birth in Cameroon his family moved to France, where he spent most of his life and, he said, worked for French intelligence. Dooh Collins reported that the French Government had conveyed to him its disapproval of this anti-corruption mission and told him not to travel on his French passport while conducting it. Dooh Collins said the French government had previously intervened to sidetrack Cameroonian investigations because such inquests inevitably turned up links to prominent French politicians and businesses. Dooh Collins alleged that French intelligence agencies had broken into Biya's office and stolen from his desk the list of "suspects" and then leaked it to the press in order to discredit the investigation. Dooh Collins said that, for these reasons, the French were not to be informed about the investigation (further info about GRC suspicion of French opposition to the anti-corruption effort at refs a and b). In the subsequent October 10 meeting, Dooh Collins said he was hopeful that the French Government might become more cooperative under the leadership of Sarkozy.

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Dooh Collins and Cameroonian Politics  
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17. (C) Dooh Collins is not shy about his personal ambitions beyond the current investigation. He has shared with us papers that he claims to have presented to Biya laying out his ideas for restructuring a number of sensitive sectors in Cameroon, including the management of petroleum revenues and public debt. On October 10, he claimed that Biya has already ceded tremendous authority to Ali and said it was almost a foregone conclusion that Biya would tap Ali to succeed him in 2011. Dooh Collins said that a cabinet reshuffle planned for

March 2008 would dismiss Prime Minister Inoni and name as his replacement the current Assistant Secretary General at the Presidency (and Anglophone), Philomen Yang. Dooh Collins asserted that "there are many dossiers" on Inoni, including one for Inoni's involvement in the Albatross affair, but that Inoni was left out of the GRC's investigation for the time being in order to avoid angering his Anglophone base of support.

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Dooh Collins's Next Travel  
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¶8. (C) Dooh Collins has now spoken with diplomatic missions in Yaounde of the US, UK, Canada, Holland, and Italy. Dooh Collins said that he will travel to Geneva, Luxembourg and London sometime after October 15 to meet with officials contributing to the investigation. Dooh Collins expressed an interest in returning to the US to meet with USG officials in Washington and Miami, but said he would put off his trip to await feedback from Washington on the MLA he has submitted.

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Comment: Mitigating the Wildcard  
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¶9. (C) Comment. Dooh Collins has thus far been a critical element of Ali's ambitious plan to tap international sources for an anti-corruption investigation. His claims to be using GRC funds to pay off foreign governments, including the USG, trouble us, but Dooh Collins' credibility has little bearing on the larger objective of GRC-USG cooperation on anti-corruption. Leaving aside the personality of Dooh Collins, a serious anti-corruption investigation, involving multiple agencies from multiple governments, will require a more formalized system of exchange. In the interest of cultivating a more professional, sustainable anti-corruption

effort from the GRC, we will seek to convince Ali to establish soon a formalized structure to handle this and similar requests for the GRC, which may also help minimize the wildcard factor of Dooh Collins' inscrutable role. End comment.

¶10. (SBU) Information from Dooh Collins' Cameroonian National ID Card:

Name: Francis Ebosse Theodore Dooh Collins  
Date of Birth: February 23, 1960  
Father: Henri Ned Collins Dooh  
Mother Riquette Borgy  
Profession: Accounting Expert  
Height: 1.77 meters  
Weight: 91  
Number 106991164  
Issued October 29, 2005

End information from Dooh Collins' Cameroonian National ID Card.

¶11. (SBU) Information from business cards left by Dooh Collins and Robert Horwath:

Petroleum Advising Services (PAS) Ltd.  
Francis Dooh Collins  
Managing Director-Finance & Project

16, chemin des Morettes  
1273 arzier/VD - Switzerland  
Tel : 41 78 888 88 89 Fax : 41 22 366 00 48  
Cell : 41 786 06 83 23 / 333 89 62 84 40  
E-mail : petroladvise@hotmail.com

(written in hand: 75-82-03-88)

Robert Horwath  
Managing Director - Shipping  
16, chemin des Morettes

1273 arzier/VD - Switzerland  
Tel : 41 78 888 88 89  
Fax : 41 22 366 00 48  
Cell : 41 789 08 98 91  
E-mail : goptasltd@hotmail.com

End information from business cards left by Dooh Collins and  
Robert Horwath.  
NELSON